

[17 August, 2000]

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acquisition and resettlement of land oustees affecting production from a few large coal mines.

(d) The targets of production and achievement levels in ECL during the last four years are given below:—

	(In Million tonnes)			
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Target				(29.00
Production	31.50	32.50	32.00	P 25.12
achieved	29.65	27.44	27.16	rovisional)

The reasons for the production shortfall in ECL as compared to the targets are:—

(i) Non-availability and delayed availability of land needed for coal mining operations.

(ii) Unforeseen geological problems encountered in a number of UG mines.

(iii) Low offtake of coal from Rajmahal Opencast mines necessitating lowering of production.

Implementation of special package for North-East

*332. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government stands committed to implement the special packages of programmes for speedy economic development of the North-Eastern States as announced by the two former Prime Ministers;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken for their early implementation; and

(c) the progress of work in various development programmes under those packages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government stands committed to implement the special package of programmes for speedy economic development of North-Eastern States as announced by the two former Prime Ministers. A Cell in the Prime Minister's Office, and North-East Division in the Ministry of Home Affairs are regularly monitoring the implementation of the package.

(c) The progress of work in respect of certain major programmes is as follows:—

(i) **Power:** All the three units of Doyang Hydro-electric Project (75MW) have been commissioned in June, 2000 at the proposed revised cost estimates (RCE II) of Rs. 758.70 crs. The Ranganadi Hydro-electric Project (405MW) is likely to be commissioned by September, 2001. The Turial HEP (60MW) and the Loktak Downstream HEP (90MW) have been sanctioned. All clearances of Turial HEP have been tied up.

(ii) **Roads:** 12 new National Highways or extension of the existing National Highways have been sanctioned during the last two years with a length of 1962 Kms. Land acquisition estimate amounting to Rs. 8.63 crores for Shillong Bypass has been approved on 06.06.2000. Estimates for Dowki Bridge connecting Bangladesh on NH-40 at a cost of Rs. 8.69 crores has been approved by MOST. 11 roads under the NEC Plan have also been sanctioned recently at a total cost of Rs. 375.48 crores.

(iii) **Railways:** The bridge at Jogighopa and the line from Jogighopa to Guwahati have been completed and commissioned (142 Kms.) at a cost of Rs. 461.94 crores. Work on 1218.25 Kms. of railway lines, including Kumargahat-Agartala railway line (119 Kms.) have been taken up.

(iv) **Civil Aviation:** Guwahati airport has been declared £ . international airport. The works relating to extension of apron at Guwahati airport has been completed. A modern radar has also been installed at that airport. Soil Testing and engineering survey

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completed for extension of runway at Agartala and Dimapur. For Lilabari airport, DVOR/DME equipment has been procured and land also acquired. Work is likely to be completed by October 2000.

(v) **Education:** Infrastructure development for Nagaland University at a cost of Rs. 10 Crores is under implementation. Bill for the Central University at Aizwal (Mizoram) has been passed by the Parliament and assented by the President on 25.04.2000. An amount of Rs. 3 crores has been released for creation of new infrastructure at Cotton College. Similarly, an amount of Rs. 10 crores each has been released to Tezpur University, Assam University and Diphu Campus of Assam University from Non-lapsable Pool of Resources.

(vi) **Petroleum and Natural Gas:** Numaligarh Refinery Project has been dedicated to the Nation on July 9, 1999. The total expenditure on this project was Rs. 2489.12 Crores. The LPG Bottling Plant at Bongaingaon at a cost of Rs. 31.68 Crores has been sanctioned. For the implementation of the Assam Gas Cracker Project, Reliance Assam Petrochemicals Ltd. and Oil India Ltd. have agreed on a draft Gas Supply Agreement.

(vii) **Border Area Development Programme (Myanmar):** The Border Area Development programme has been extended to States bordering not only Myanmar, but also China and Bhutan. An amount of Rs. 50.69 Crs. has been provided in the current year budget for the NE States and Sikkim.

(viii) **Industrial Growth Centre:** The Government has approved following eight Industrial Growth Centres.

1. Chariduar Growth Centre in Assam.
2. Matia Growth Centre, Assam.
3. Niklok Ngorlung Growth Centre, Arunachal Pradesh.
4. Mendipathar Growth Centre, Meghalaya.
5. Luangmual Growth Centre, Mizoram.
6. Lamlai-Napet Growth Centre, Manipur.
7. Ganeshnagar Growth Centre, Nagaland.
8. Bodhjung Nagar Growth Centre.

In addition to these, sanction for Chaygaon Growth Centre, Assam is under process.

The new Industrial Policy for the North-East has also been announced. Transport Subsidy Scheme has been extended up to 31.03.2007 in respect of NE States. Notification regarding revised PMRY guidelines with respect to relaxation of norms of age, activities covered etc. has been issued.

(ix) **Health:** For the Naga hospital at Kohima, Rs. 8 Crores has been released in 1998-99 for referral facilities from Central Pool of Resources. The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has prepared EFC proposal for the establishment of North-Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health & Medical Sciences, Shilong at an estimated cost of Rs. 422.60 crores.

(x) **Drinking Water:** The Aizawl Urban Drinking Water Supply Scheme, Itanagar-Naharlagun Water Supply Scheme and Greater Shilong Water Supply Scheme have been sanctioned an amount of Rs. 24.00 crores, 6.00 crores and 6.79 crores have been released respectively.

(xi) All the Ministries are earmarking 10% of their budget for North-East except certain exempted Ministries/Departments.

Compensation under NFBS in Maharashtra

† *333. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the district-wise number of persons benefited under the National Family Benefit Scheme in cases of natural deaths as well as accidental deaths in Maharashtra particularly in tribal districts since the year 1996-97; and

(b) the details of the benefits extended to the families of *U&* deceased under this scheme.

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.